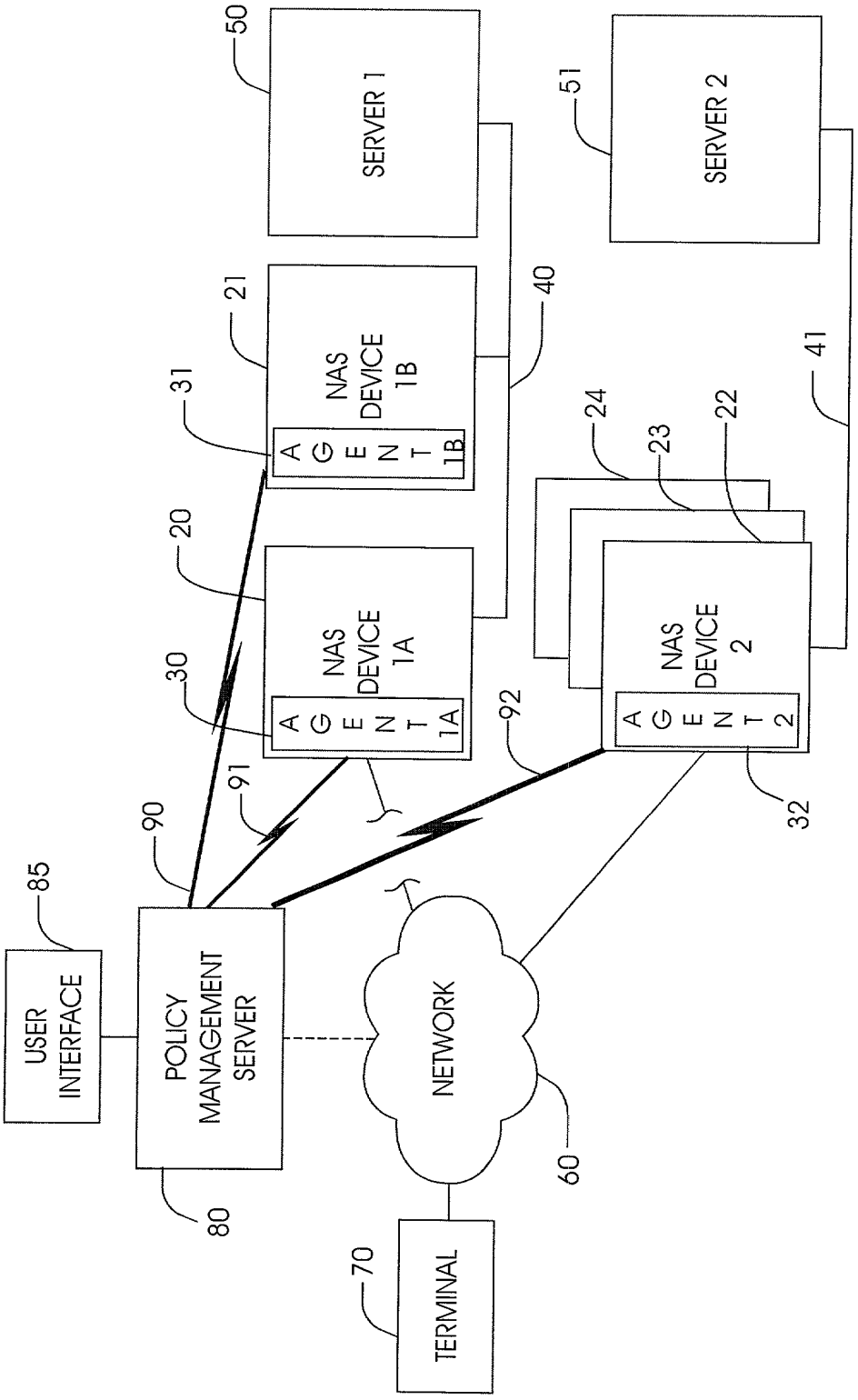
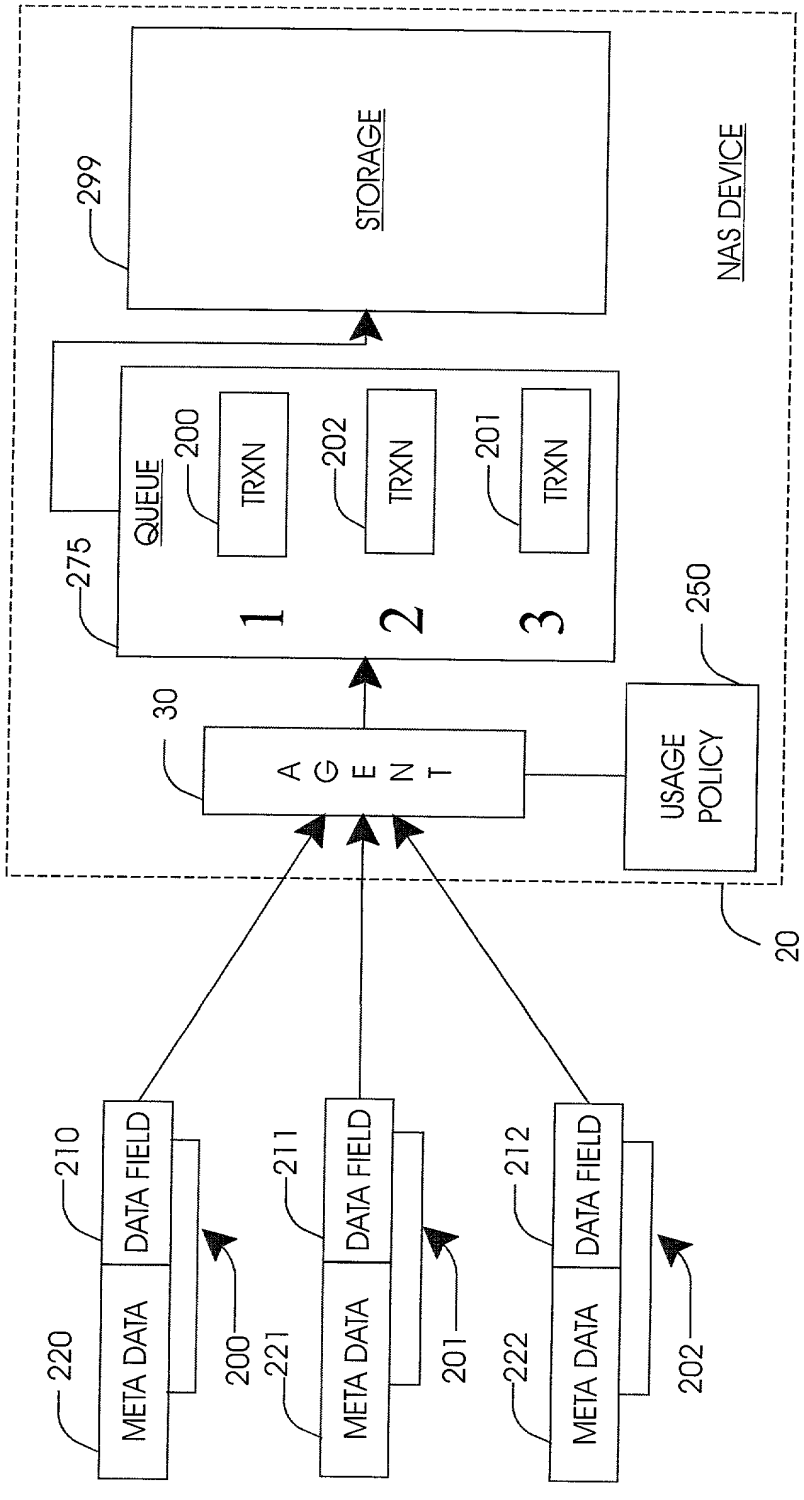

SERVER 1
50
SERVER 2
51
NAS DEVICE 1B
21
AGENT 1B
31
40
NAS DEVICE 1A
20
AGENT 1A
30
NAS DEVICE 2
22
23
24
41
AGENT 2
32
92
91
90
USER INTERFACE
85
POLICY MANAGEMENT SERVER
80
NETWORK
60
TERMINAL
70

FIG. 1

FIG. 2


NAS DEVICE
20
STORAGE
299
QUEUE
275
200
TRXN
202
TRXN
201
TRXN
1
2
3
AGENT
30
USAGE POLICY
250
META DATA
220
DATA FIELD
210
200
META DATA
221
DATA FIELD
211
201
META DATA
222
DATA FIELD
212
202

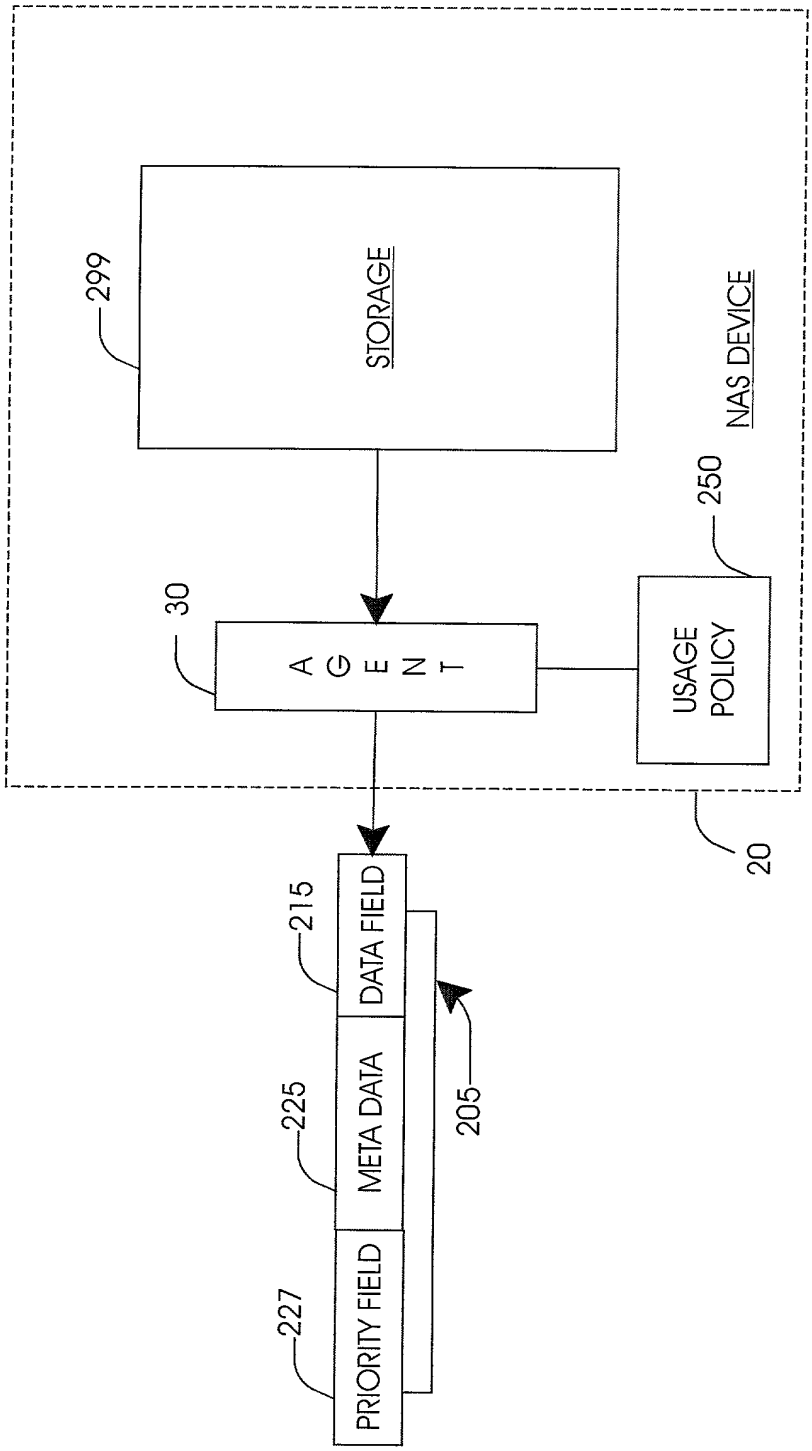

NAS DEVICE
20
299
STORAGE
30
AGENT
250
USAGE POLICY
215
DATA FIELD
225
META DATA
227
PRIORITY FIELD
205

FIG. 3

FIG. 4

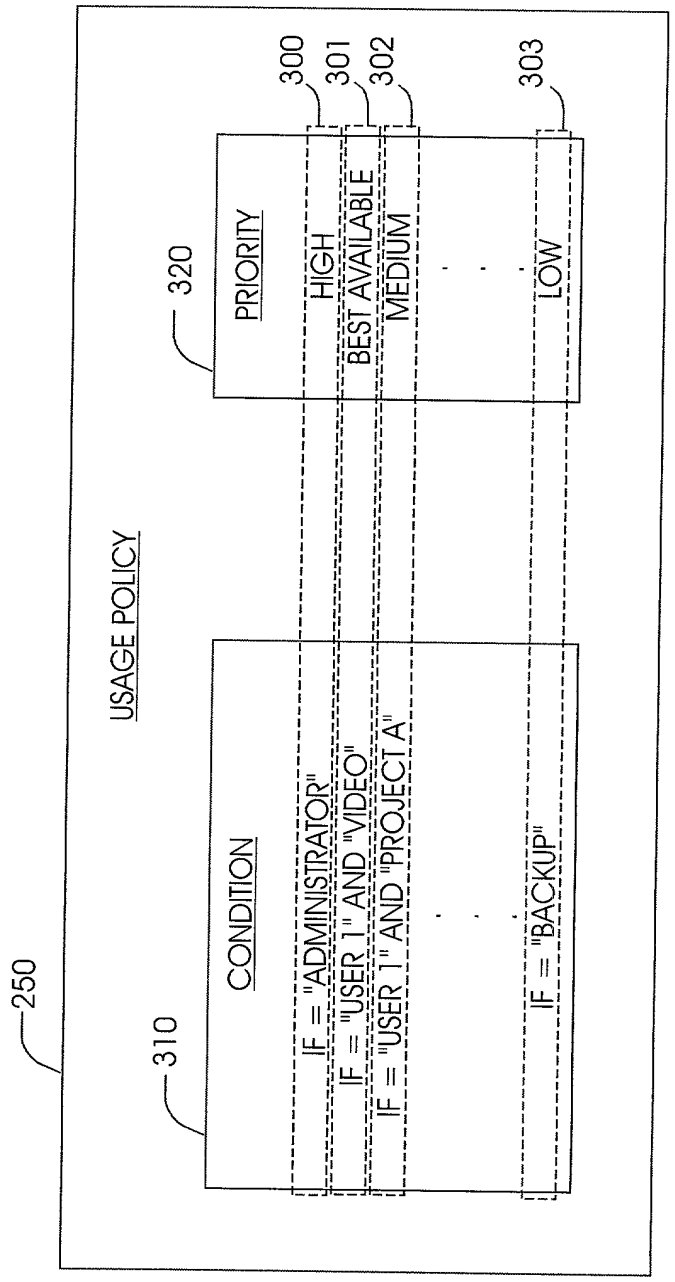

250
USAGE POLICY
310
CONDITION
IF = "ADMINISTRATOR"
IF = "USER 1" AND "VIDEO"
IF = "USER 1" AND "PROJECT A"
IF = "BACKUP"
320
PRIORITY
HIGH
BEST AVAILABLE
MEDIUM
LOW
300
301
302
303

FIG. 5

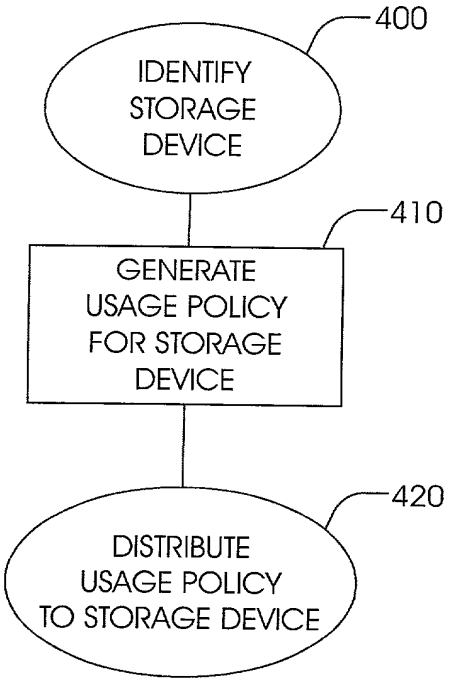
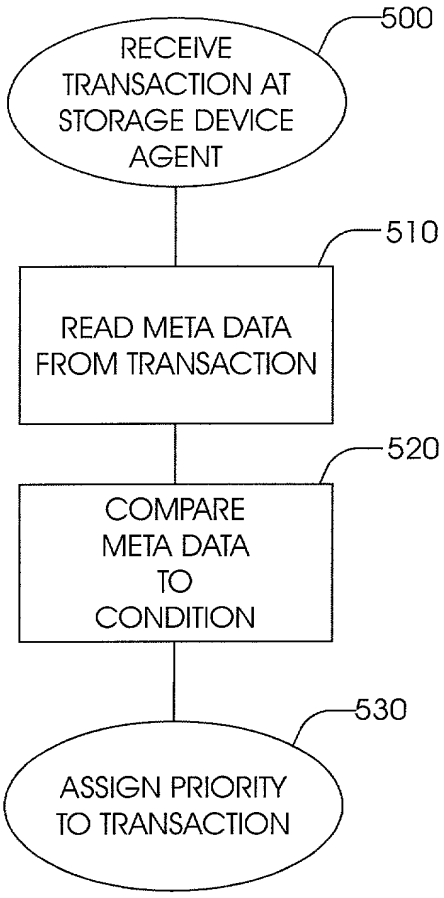

400
IDENTIFY STORAGE DEVICE
410
GENERATE USAGE POLICY FOR STORAGE DEVICE
420
DISTRIBUTE USAGE POLICY TO STORAGE DEVICE

FIG. 6


500
RECEIVE TRANSACTION AT STORAGE DEVICE AGENT
510
READ META DATA FROM TRANSACTION
520
COMPARE META DATA TO CONDITION
530
ASSIGN PRIORITY TO TRANSACTION